

Section 3, Amendments to Claims, and New Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A portable vise and saw combination comprising:

(i) a **portable** vise **assembly** including:

(a) a base having three sets of **substantially identical** engaging surfaces, **at least one of said engaging surfaces being oriented orthogonally to the other two surfaces;**

(b) a plurality of clamps, one clamp **cooperatively** positioned over each set of engaging surfaces;

(c) a first of said clamps is to attach said portable vise to a support, a second of said clamps is to secure a workpiece to said portable vise, and said third clamp is to secure a portable saw in an orientation that permits said saw to cut said workpiece.

(ii) a **portable** saw assembly including:

(a) a **power** saw; [and]

(b) an elongated base plate to which said power saw is adjustably mounted adjacent a first end, said adjustable mounting including mounting for both angular and arcuate cutting motion of a saw blade with respect to said workpiece; and

(c) a mounting member attached to said elongated base plate adjacent a second end thereof, said mounting member being adapted to be engagable by said third clamp and its cooperative engaging surface to position said saw to cut said workpiece.

[means for mounting said saw to said base, said means for mounting being attached to said base by one of said clamps and one set of engaging surfaces.]

2. (Currently Amended) A combination, as claimed in Claim 1, **which includes:** [wherein: said means for mounting includes a mounting member attached to said base, a base plate connected to said mounting member,] an index plate mounted over said base plate **and** [, wherein] said index plate is selectively rotatable with respect to said base plate enabling selective **angular** positioning of said saw to cut a workpiece mounted to said vise.

3. (Currently Amended) A [portable vise and saw] combination, **as in claim 1, wherein:** **at least two of said engaging surfaces are opposed and in a parallel, back-to-back orientation with respect to each other, and said third engaging surface is orthogonal to both.** [comprising: a vise having a body and a plurality of clamps mounted to said body;

a saw;

a mounting device interconnecting said saw to said vise, said mounting device having a first end attached to said vise, said mounting device further including means for rotating said saw to selectively position said saw with a workpiece mounted in one of said clamps.]

4. (Currently Amended) A combination, as claimed in Claim 2 [3], wherein: said rotatable index plate [means for rotating] further includes a positioning handle [means] for selecting a specific angle at which the workpiece is to be cut.

5. (Currently Amended) A combination, as claimed in Claim 4 [3], wherein: said [mounting device includes a base plate, and said means for rotating includes an] index plate [mounted over said base plate and rotatable with respect to said base plate, and said means for rotating further including a] positioning handle is mounted to said index plate and is selectively, lockably engageable with said base [index] plate. [to enable a user to select a specific angle at which the workpiece is to be cut.]

6. (Currently Amended) A [portable vise and saw] combination, [comprising] as in claim 2, wherein said saw is pivotally mounted to said index plate for said arcuate motion, and which includes:

[a vise having a body and a plurality of clamps mounted to said body;

a saw;

a mounting device interconnecting said saw to said vise, said mounting device having a first end attached to said vise, and said mounting device further including means for rotating said saw to selectively position said saw with respect to a workpiece mounted in one of said clamps; and]

a measuring device connected to said vise to measure a length of the workpiece, said measuring device including a measuring element extending substantially parallel to said workpiece, and means for selectively adjusting the length of the measuring element to accommodate the length of the workpiece [pipe] to be cut.

7. (Original) A combination, as claimed in Claim 6, wherein:

said measuring device further includes a measuring stop positioned at a distal end of said

measuring element and engageable with an end of the workpiece to be cut.

8. (Currently Amended) A combination, as claimed in Claim 6, wherein: said [mounting device includes a base plate, and said means for rotating includes an] index plate [mounted over said base plate and rotatable with respect to said base plate, and wherein said means for rotating further including a] includes a positioning handle mounted to said index plate and is selectively, lockably engageable with said base [index] plate to hold said saw in a desired position to thereby achieve a cut of a desired angle on the workpiece.

9. (Cancelled) ~~A method of preparing a workpiece for installation in a system, said method comprising the steps of:~~

- ~~—providing a vise;~~
- ~~—attaching the vise to an existing support by a clamp that engages the vise;~~
- ~~—securing the workpiece to the vise by another clamp that engages the vise;~~
- ~~—securing a saw to the vise by yet another clamp that engages the vise;~~
- ~~—confirming the position of the saw with respect to the workpiece to achieve a desired orientation between the saw and workpiece;~~
- ~~—cutting the workpiece while the saw remains attached to the vise and the workpiece remains attached to the vise;~~
- ~~—releasing the workpiece from the vise and repositioning the workpiece for installation in the system; and~~
- ~~—resecuring the workpiece to the vise~~

10. (Cancelled) ~~A method, as claimed in Claim 9, further including the steps of:~~
- ~~—providing a measuring element;~~
 - ~~—measuring the workpiece to a desired length;~~
 - ~~—shifting the measuring element to be coextensive with the workpiece secured to the vise, and securing the measuring element to the vise;~~
 - ~~—cutting the workpiece with the saw;~~
 - ~~—removing the workpiece from the vise;~~
 - ~~—providing a second workpiece;~~
 - ~~—positioning the second workpiece to be coextensive with the measuring element thereby~~

~~providing a measurement for the second workpiece to be cut at the same length as the first workpiece;~~

~~—securing the second workpiece to the vise; and~~

~~——cutting the second workpiece.~~

11. (New) A combination, as in claim 8, wherein: at least two of said engaging surfaces are opposed and in a parallel, back-to-back orientation with respect to each other, and said third engaging surface is orthogonal to both.

12. (New) A combination, as in claim 11, wherein said first engaging surface and its cooperating clamp engages a support, said second engaging surface and its cooperating clamp engages a workpiece, said third, orthogonally oriented engaging surface and its cooperating clamp engages and retains said base plate mounting member, said workpiece is adjusted in said second engaging surface and its engaging clamp for cut off by said saw at a desired length, and said index plate is adjusted to provide a selected angle of cut of said workpiece.

13. (New) A combination, as in claim 2, wherein said base plate includes a stabilizer member adjacent to said mounting member oriented to engage a portion of said vice base engaged by said mounting member.

14. (New) A portable saw base assembly for use with a power saw for angle and compound cuts of workpieces comprising in operative combination:

a) an elongated, generally planar base plate having a first end and a second end, a top face, a bottom face and front and back side edges;

b) a mounting member secured to the bottom face of said base plate adjacent said first end thereof, said mounting member being oriented generally normal to the plane of said base plate and projecting downwardly to permit securing said mounting member in a vertically oriented vice so that said base plate is both cantilevered from said vice and oriented generally horizontally, and a workpiece to be cut is oriented generally parallel to said front edge;

c) an index plate pivotally secured to the top face of said base plate adjacent said second end thereof, said index plate having a top face; and

d) a saw mounting member secured to said top face of said index plate for pivotally mounting a power saw so that saw is movable in a downward cutting arc.

15. (New) A portable saw base assembly as in Claim 14 wherein said index plate includes a lockable handle permitting said index plate to lockingly orient said saw with respect to said base plate for preselected cuts at an angle to said front edge to permit cutting said workpiece at said preselected angle.

16. (New) A portable saw base assembly as in Claim 15 wherein said saw mounting member comprises a generally vertically oriented bracket having a pivot pin for mounting said saw thereon.

17. (New) A portable saw base assembly as in claim 16 wherein said mounting member comprises a cylindrically shaped pipe or rod, and wherein said front edge of said base plate includes at least one fork member adjacent to and spaced from said mounting member to engage a portion of said vice to assist in stabilizing said base plate.

18. (New) A portable saw base assembly as in claim 14 which includes a workpiece supporting tray securable to a workpiece securing vice, said tray being oriented generally parallel to the front edge of said base plate.

19. (New) A portable saw base assembly as in claim 15 wherein said base plate and said lockable handle cooperate to permit said saw to be locked in selected ones of a plurality of preselected angles, including at least one of left and right in the range of from 22 1/2° to 90°.

20. (New) A portable saw base assembly as in claim 14 which includes an adjustable length measuring member disposed adjacent said front edge so that the length of a workpiece to be cut can be gauged.

21. (New) A portable saw base assembly as in claim 20 wherein said length measuring member includes a stop flange adjacent said saw location and a locking member to lock said

measuring member at a selected length.

22. (New) A portable saw base assembly as in claim 14 which includes a power saw which includes an arm member adapted to be receivingly engaged by said saw mounting member of said index plate and permitting arcuate cut off motion of a saw blade of said saw and oriented a distance from a workpiece held parallel to said saw base plate front edge to permit cutting through said workpiece.

End of Section 3, Amendments to Claims and New Claims: